

AGENDA ITEM 9: Report on Delta Levees Investment Strategy

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Presented by: Erik Vink

Requested Action: **Receive report on Delta Levee Investment Strategy**

Background: The Delta Stewardship Council’s Delta Levees Investment Strategy is an effort to prioritize long-term investment of limited State funding for Delta levee improvements, as directed by the Delta Reform Act. This effort has commenced and will be developed over an 18-month period working in consultation with the Commission, DWR, Central Valley Flood Protection Board, California Water Commission, local agencies and reclamation districts, and Delta stakeholders. The Strategy will use data, research, and lessons learned from other State and local program and planning efforts.

Linked closely with the Commission’s Delta Flood Risk Management Assessment District, the Levees Investment Strategy will assess, island by island, the condition of levees, the extent and value of assets to be protected, and the cost of long-term defense. The result will be a tiered priorities list for State levee investments that looks beyond the value of assets directly behind a levee and considers the interconnection of these assets not only to the Delta, but also to California's water supply, transportation, electrical and gas transmission systems and the overall health of the environment. The Strategy will also recommend enhancements to the coordination of levee operations and maintenance to help make funding more certain. Recent estimates of funding required for Delta levee improvements range from \$3.8 billion to \$4.28 billion.

Cindy Messer, Deputy Executive Officer for Planning at the Delta Stewardship Council, will provide an update on the Delta Levees Investment Strategy.

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